

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for setting configuration data of
5 a printer for a printer driver in a server of an image
printing system that includes a client, the printer and
the server including the printer driver for the printer,
the method comprising the step of:

storing the configuration data obtained from
10 the printer into the server;

wherein a configuration data obtaining part
in the server reads the stored configuration data
according to a request from the printer driver, and
sends the configuration data to the printer driver.

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2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
20 an application program interface between the
configuration data obtaining part and the printer
driver in the server is the same as an application
program interface between a network communication
module and a client printer driver same as the printer
25 driver in the server, in which the network

communication module is used for obtaining configuration data of the printer for the client printer driver in a client terminal.

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3. The method as claimed in claim 2, the configuration data obtaining part comprising:
10 the application program interface;
a part for determining which piece of configuration data to obtain among the stored configuration data on the basis of information from the application program interface; and
15 a part for accessing the configuration data and reads the determined piece of configuration data.

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4. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the configuration data to be stored in the server is obtained from the printer by using a network communication module that performs bidirectional
25 communication with the printer.

5 5. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein
the configuration data is obtained by a computer that
includes a software tool that causes the computer to
display a window for selecting at least one printer
driver included in the computer and to obtain
10 configuration data from a printer corresponding to the
selected printer driver.

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 6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
the client, instead of the server, stores the
configuration data, and the configuration data
obtaining part in the server obtains the configuration
20 data from the client.

25 7. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein

the server is used for realizing server-based computing in which application processing is handled by the server and not by the client.

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8. A server to be used in an image printing system that includes a client, a printer and the server including a printer driver for the printer, the server comprising:

a part for storing configuration data obtained from the printer; and

an configuration data obtaining part, wherein
15 the configuration data obtaining part reads the stored configuration data according to a request from the printer driver, and sends the configuration data to the printer driver.

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9. The server as claimed in claim 8, wherein
an application program interface between the
25 configuration data obtaining part and the printer

driver in the server is the same as an application
program interface between a network communication
module and a client printer driver same as the printer
driver in the server, in which the network
5 communication module is used for obtaining
configuration data of the printer for the client
printer driver in a client terminal.

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10. The server as claimed in claim 9, the
configuration data obtaining part comprising:
the application program interface;
15 a part for determining which piece of
configuration data to obtain among the stored
configuration data on the basis of information from the
application program interface; and
a part for accessing the configuration data
20 and reads the determined piece of configuration data.

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11. The server as claimed in claim 8, wherein

the configuration data to be stored in the server is obtained from the printer by using a network communication module that performs bidirectional communication with the printer.

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12. The server as claimed in claim 11,
10 wherein the configuration data is obtained by a computer that includes a software tool that causes the computer to display a window for selecting at least one printer driver included in the computer and to obtain configuration data from a printer corresponding to the
15 selected printer driver.

20 13. A program to run on a server to be used in an image printing system that includes a client, a printer and the server including a printer driver for the printer, the program comprising:

configuration data obtaining program code
25 means for reading configuration data of the printer

according to a request from the printer driver, and
sends the configuration data to the printer driver,
wherein the configuration data is obtained from the
printer and is stored in the server.

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14. The program as claimed in claim 13,
10 wherein an application program interface between the
configuration data obtaining program code means and the
printer driver in the server is the same as an
application program interface between a network
communication module and a client printer driver same
15 as the printer driver in the server, in which the
network communication module is used for obtaining
configuration data of the printer for the client
printer driver in a client terminal.

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15. The program as claimed in claim 14, the
configuration data obtaining program code means
25 comprising:

program code means for realizing the
application program interface;

program code means for determining which
piece of configuration data to obtain among the stored
5 configuration data on the basis of information from the
application program interface; and

program code means for accessing the
configuration data and reads the determined piece of
configuration data.

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16. A computer readable medium storing a
15 program to run on a server to be used in an image
printing system that includes a client, a printer and
the server including a printer driver for the printer,
the program comprising:

configuration data obtaining program code
20 means for reading configuration data of the printer
according to a request from the printer driver, and
sends the configuration data to the printer driver,
wherein the configuration data is obtained from the
printer and is stored in the server.

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17. The computer readable medium as claimed
5 in claim 16, wherein an application program interface
between the configuration data obtaining program code
means and the printer driver in the server is the same
as an application program interface between a network
communication module and a client printer driver same
10 as the printer driver in the server, in which the
network communication module is used for obtaining
configuration data of the printer for the client
printer driver in a client terminal.

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18. The computer readable medium as claimed
in claim 17, the configuration data obtaining program
20 code means comprising:

program code means for realizing the
application program interface;

program code means for determining which
piece of configuration data to obtain among the stored
25 configuration data on the basis of information from the

application program interface; and

program code means for accessing the
configuration data and reads the determined piece of
configuration data.

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